

Celebrating Collaboration

Livingston County Human Services Collaborative Body

You can get involved in the HSCB by joining a workgroup!

WHERE CAN YOU MAKE A DIFFERENCE?

- Transportation
- Foster Care, Adoption, Kinship
- Substance Abuse · Homelessness
 - Healthy Youth · Hunger
 - Mental Health Awareness
 - Individuals with Disabilities
- Older Adults · Young Children
 - Community Data

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HSCB

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Livingston County Community Celebration Happy 10 Year Anniversary!

The Big Red Barrel celebrated its 10-year anniversary in 2021! The Big Red Barrel program is where people can safely dispose of their unwanted medication. With permanent prescription drug collection units available for community use, it decreases the likelihood of prescription drug abuse, heroin use, and maintains a healthy environment.

Joe Carney and Terry Murray started the Big Red Barrel after having the annual medication take back day. They created the first set of barrels and were placed in the Michigan State Police Post in Brighton and the Livingston County Sheriff's Office. Sheriff Mike Murphy told Joe and Terry that he would take the medication in the barrels to be properly disposed of. Since the inception of the program, there are barrels placed all over the state of Michigan which resulted in the secure and environmentally safe disposal of over 20 tons (40,000 pounds) of drugs.

Congratulations to the Big Red Barrel and Livingston County Community Alliance!

**NEW NAME, SAME REMARKABLE
CARE AT TRINITY HEALTH MICHIGAN**



Saint Joseph Mercy Health System, IHA and all Trinity Health owned medical groups and continuing care facilities throughout the state have come together under a unified system name and brand — Trinity Health Michigan.

The hospital names, medical group and specialty services in Southeast Michigan will transition to: Trinity Health St. Joseph Mercy Ann Arbor, Trinity Health St. Joseph Mercy Livingston, Trinity Health St. Mary Mercy Livonia, Trinity Health St. Joseph Mercy Oakland, Chelsea Hospital (joint venture between Trinity Health and University of Michigan Health), Trinity Health IHA Medical Group, Trinity Health Probility Physical Therapy, and TrinityElite Sports Performance.

What you can expect - You do not need to do anything or take any action. Your doctors, providers and medical office locations will remain the same. Over the next several months, you may see either Trinity Health or St. Joe's on communications, billing statements and signs. Your health insurance coverage will continue to be accepted at all facilities. In fact, the bills for services will become easier to understand. Your medical record has always been accessible through Trinity Health's MyChart patient portal.

Why the change? St. Joe's has been a proud member of Trinity Health, a nationwide Catholic health system, for 22 years. With locations throughout Michigan and 25 states, the new brand brings together the national recognition of Trinity Health. That means more access to doctors, research, clinical trials, leading technology, and care options. For every stage of health, in every community they serve, look for excellence in the Trinity Health cross.

Workgroup Spotlight:

Community Needs Assessment (CNA)

The purpose of this workgroup is to assess and increase community awareness of the health and human service needs in Livingston County and assist in the evaluation of collaborative projects.

Currently, the workgroup is collecting feedback from local organizations that utilize MiPHY data to drive programmatic activities and leverage grant funding.

The Michigan Profile for Healthy Youth (MiPHY) is an online student health survey offered by the Michigan Departments of Education and Health and Human Services to support local and regional needs assessment.

If your organization has used MiPHY data in the past, the workgroup would like to hear from you!

Please take a minute to complete this survey:
<https://survey.alchemer.com/s3/6853565/Livingston-County-MiPHY-Data-Utilization>.

The Livingston County Community Needs Assessment Committee was developed as a way to keep the needs of our community at the forefront of decisions in the county. The committee reviews assessments and data collections throughout the county to ensure a clear understanding of the gaps and needs presented.



OLHSA continues to serve the community through a hybrid work schedule. OLHSA is available virtually every day from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm. People seeking assistance can call or send an email to staff from this list.

OLHSA does have in-person availability for program appointments & to serve walk-ins on Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday from 9:00 to 4:30 at our office located at 2300 E Grand River Suite 107 (Livingston County East Complex). There is a basic COVID screening that will be given at the door & masks are required to enter the office area.

General Inquiries and Utility Assistance
517-546-8500 info@olhsa.org

Emergency Shelter Office Hours
248-520-9673 hara@olhsa.org

Emergency Shelter After-Hours
517-672-8658

Rental Assistance (Non-CERA)
248-209-2604 hara@olhsa.org

CERA Rental Assistance
248-209-2604 hara@olhsa.org

Supportive Services for Veteran Families (SSVF)
517-599-6954 veterans@olhsa.org

Housing Counseling & Homebuyers Education
248-860-7845 housingcounseling@olhsa.org

Working Together to Improve Outcomes in the Autism Community

By Katie Oswald, Executive Director,
Full Spectrum Agency for Autistic Adults

As an autistic self-advocate, I get asked to do many speaking engagements and articles in April. I don't mind because I speak and write about autism every month of the year. What makes April special is that it's Autism Awareness Month.

So why is awareness of autism important?

I recently read a journal article about understanding stigma in autism and it really spoke to my personal experience. Autism stigma is a result of misconceptions and misunderstandings of autism. Poor understanding of autism means that visible autistic traits may be viewed negatively or even as inherently wrong. The belief that autistic traits are wrong and neurotypical traits are correct leads to **ableism**, which is discrimination and social prejudice against people with disabilities or those perceived to be disabled.

This stigma and ableist attitudes and behaviors in society leads to poor mental and physical health, as well as reduced social connections for autistic people. Autism stigma also leads to increased masking of autistic traits and masking itself can lead to poor mental health outcomes.

Some of the poor outcomes in the autism community include loneliness, isolation, greater struggles with education and employment, higher levels of bullying, severe depression, anxiety, and increased suicidality. Autism awareness is important because if no one knows about this, then we won't be able to improve these outcomes.

What the authors of the stigma paper recommend is consistent with what I advocate for in my presentations. To reduce stigma, people should

- create more autism friendly spaces
- improve autism education in society, primarily the lived experience of autism
- support neurodiversity as a different way of being

Will awareness alone get us all the way there? Of course not. That is the first step. To understand. After that, we need to accept and include. I hear more people referring to Autism Acceptance Month rather than Awareness these days, which to me says we are making progress.

More recently, my peers have been talking about Autistic Pride. **June 18th is Autistic Pride Day** and I hope you will celebrate with me by doing one thing to combat stigma and ableism. Here are some ideas:

- Make your space autism friendly by going fragrance free, reducing sensory stimuli, or providing a quiet space for those in your home/office/business for when they are feeling overwhelmed
- Improve your understanding of autism by learning from autistic voices. My favorite websites include Neuroclastic, Thinking Person's Guide to Autism, and Different Brains. If you want a nerdier option, check out the journal Autism in Adulthood.
- Support neurodiversity as a different way of being by reminding yourself and others that autistic is different, not less, and we should accept everyone just the way they are.

HAPPY AUTISTIC PRIDE DAY!

the quarterly quote

“If you think you are too small to make a difference, try sleeping with a mosquito in the room”



- THE DALAI LAMA

Reality Tour is a community-based drug prevention system designed as a single event to engage parents with their children. Held on the first Thursday of every month from 5pm-7pm, this program puts parent and child on the same page and meets the expressed needs of parents. Reality Tour addresses the consequences without using ‘scare tactics.’ For more info, check out <https://drugfreelivingston.com/>.

Reality Based Prevention Experience for Parents & Youth ages 10+

REALITY TOUR
CANDLE, Inc.

FIRST THURSDAY OF THE MONTH
5PM-7PM

Register here:
[RealityTour.event
brite.com](https://brite.com)

See...
#BeyondtheNext10

Livingston County Community Alliance

REGISTRATION
IS OPEN

Day of Caring
-AUGUST 10, 2022-

DON'T MISS OUT!
REGISTER FOR
DAY OF CARING 2022

REGISTRATION CLOSING TUESDAY, JUNE 21

United Way
Livingston County
United Way

The deadline to register as a volunteer or submit a project request is **TUESDAY, JUNE 21.**

Register Here!



Ensuring a system of support for members of our community

Connect with Local Resources



LIVINGSTON COUNTY
RESOURCE BOX

www.livgov.com/hscb

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|------------------|-----------------|----------------------|
| * Housing | * Substance Use | * Senior Supports |
| * Food | * Mental Health | * Emergency Supports |
| * Transportation | * Foster Care | |

**Livingston County
Human Services
Collaborative Body**

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HSCB SUMMER 2022